



ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

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Dr. James H. Billington

February 11, 2008

Thank you for participating in these inaugural events of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial.

Congress established the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to plan educational, public, and legacy programs to mark the sixteenth president's 200th birthday in 2009. It is a great honor to begin this commemoration in the place where Lincoln began his own remarkable life: Kentucky.

During the gravest crisis in American history, Lincoln preserved the Union, issued the Emancipation Proclamation, and articulated the best aspirations of American democracy, sacrificing his own life to save the nation's.

Borrowing from Lincoln's immortal words at Gettysburg, the Commission hopes not only to remind Americans of his extraordinary accomplishments, but to challenge ourselves to remember his call to complete the nation's "unfinished work:" to ensure the full and permanent realization of freedom, democracy, and equal opportunity.

We propose recalling these accomplishments in ways that will enlighten and inspire us both today and tomorrow.

With our celebrations in Kentucky, we embark on a two-year commemoration of our greatest president. We are honored by your participation and look forward to your ongoing commitment to this bicentennial program in the months to come.

Dick Durbin Co-Chair Ray LaHood

Harold Holzer Co-Chair

[&]quot;...a new birth of freedom..."



ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Congress established the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to plan educational, public, and legacy events to mark the 16th president's 200th birthday in 2009. Its members, who are appointed by the president and congressional leaders, include political leaders, jurists, historians, and collectors. The ALBC aims to renew Americans' appreciation of Lincoln's ideals of freedom, democracy and equality of opportunity.

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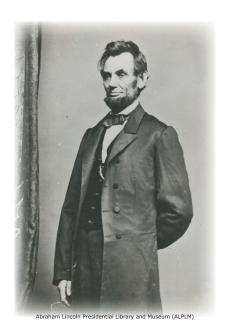
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Live the Legacy

Euncoln in Kentucky "My earliest recollection is of the Knob Creek place." — Abraham Lincoln, June 4, 1860

Abraham Lincoln was born February 12, 1809, in a log cabin on the Sinking Spring Farm – near the banks of the Nolin Creek – three miles south of Hodgenville, Kentucky. He was the second child of Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln. His sister, Sarah, was born in 1807.

When the future president was two and a half years old, the Lincoln family moved to the "Knob Creek place" of his earliest memories. They lived on 30 acres of the 228-acre farm until Abraham was almost 8 years old. Here he learned to walk and talk and grew big enough to carry water and gather wood for the fires used to cook and heat their cabin.

In later years, Abraham recalled numerous memories of his childhood here: a stone house he passed while taking corn to Hodgen's Mill; a certain big tree that had attracted his boyish fancy; the old homestead; the clear stream where he fished; and the surrounding hills where he picked berries.

He also remembered how he stayed by his mother's side and watched her face while listening to her read the Bible. Lincoln remembered the baby brother who was born and died on the Knob Creek Farm.

Once he and his sister, Sarah, planted the garden. Abraham recalled that he planted pumpkin seeds in every other hill and every other row while Sarah and others planted the corn. The following night a big rain sent water rushing into the creek, which spilled over its banks and washed away their garden.

It was also at Knob Creek that Abraham first saw African Americans being taken south along the Louisville-Nashville Turnpike, part of the old Cumberland Road, to be sold as slaves.

Lincoln wrote that while living on Knob Creek he and his sister were sent for short periods to an A, B, C school – the first kept by Zachariah Riney, and the second by Caleb Hazel. These were subscription schools and lasted only a few months. Free schools did not come to Kentucky until the 1830s.

Likewise, he never forgot the time he fell in the swollen Knob Creek while playing on a log. Had it not been for Austin Gollaher, a friend and schoolmate, Abraham probably would have drowned. Austin, with a keen sense of pioneer knowledge, grabbed a long tree limb from the bank and held it out like a strong arm to the struggling Lincoln. Abraham spoke of the incident after he became President.

In 1816, the Lincolns left Knob Creek and Kentucky, moving to Spencer County, Indiana. Abraham Lincoln wrote in 1860 that their move was "partly on account of slavery; but chiefly on account of the difficulty in land titles in Kentucky."

Kentucky was a slave state. In 1811, Hardin (now LaRue) County was home to 1,007 slaves and 1,627 white males over the age of 16. While in Kentucky, the Lincolns attended the Little Mount (Baptist) Church, which had been established in 1811 when the South Fork Church split over the issue of slavery. They attended a similarly anti-slavery church in Indiana, so it seems slavery may well have genuinely troubled Thomas Lincoln.

However, problems with land titles, which were plentiful in Kentucky at that time, may have been the compelling reason for Thomas Lincoln to move his family. Inaccurate private surveys and conflicting government land policies made Kentucky a crazy quilt of overlapping claims.

Thomas Lincoln owned three farms in Kentucky. The first proved to have fewer acres than he thought, and he sold it at a loss in 1814. The Sinking Spring Farm (on which Abraham was born and which Thomas owned concurrently with the first farm from late 1808) became the object of litigation. Another claimant sued to dispossess him of the third one, on Knob Creek.

So in the fall of 1816, Thomas and Nancy Lincoln packed their belongings and their two children, Sarah, 9, and Abraham, 7, and left their Kentucky home bound for the new frontier of southern Indiana. Arriving across the Ohio River at his 160-acre claim near the Little Pigeon Creek in December, Thomas quickly set about building a cabin for his family and carving a new life out of the largely unsettled wilderness. They remained in Indiana for nearly 14 years before moving again to Illinois in 1830.

NATIONAL OPENING CEREMONIES OF

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial

Honorary Co-Chairs Linda and Jerry Bruckheimer

Program of Events

Monday, February 11, 2008 Louisville, Kentucky

Lincoln on Leadership Symposium

Beaux Arts Ballroom 4th Floor, The Henry Clay 604 South Third Street

Frank Williams, Master of Ceremonies

Welcome Gary Gregg

Mitch McConnell Chair in Leadership

University of Louisville

Keynote

Doris Kearns Goodwin

Panel Discussion

Doris Kearns Goodwin

Richard Goodwin

Gerald L. Smith

Director of African American Studies,

University of Louisville

Thomas Mackey

Professor of History, University of Louisville

Moderator

Co-sponsored by The McConnell Center and The Frazier International History Museum

Champagne Reception
6:00 p.m.

Lobby – Kentucky Center for the Arts

Sponsored by Brown-Forman

A Kentucky Salute to Abraham Lincoln

7:30 P.M.

Whitney Hall – Kentucky Center for the Arts Music Performed by the Louisville Orchestra Jorge Mester, conductor Bob Edwards, master of ceremonies

Francis Scott Key Star Spangled Banner

Stephen Foster My Old Kentucky Home
Arr. Paul Brink Kentucky Opera Studio Artists

Harold Holzer Lincoln Seen and Heard

Harold Holzer, narrator Sam Waterston, narrator

INTERMISSION

Arr. Wilhousky Battle Hymn of the Republic

Kentucky Opera Studio Artists

Richard Danielpour 'Three Prayers' from Margaret Garner

Toni Morrison, libretto I. Cilla's Prayer II. He Is By

III. Epilogue

Angela Brown, soprano

Stephen Foster Gentle Annie

Arr. Carrie Gruselle

Stephen Foster Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming

Daniel Weeks, tenor

Arr. J. Hairston I Don't Feel No Ways Tired

Orch. Joseph Joubert Angela Brown, soprano

Hall Johnson Ride on King Jesus
Arr. DePaur Angela Brown, soprano

Margaret Bonds **He's Got the Whole World**Angela Brown, soprano

Peter Schickele Lincoln at Ease (World Premiere)

Daniel Weeks, tenor Tony Trischka, banjo Sandy German, harmonica Bob Edwards, narrator

Traditional My Country 'Tis of Thee

Angela Brown, soprano



Premiere Performance of

LINCOLN AT EASE

By Peter Schickele

Program Note by the Composer

When Jorge Mester and the Louisville Orchestra contacted me about writing a piece for narrator and orchestra celebrating the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, I must admit that I was in a bit of quandary. It's always nice to be offered an orchestral commission, but, although I happily acknowledge the influence of Copland's music upon mine, I didn't want my piece to sound like a sequel to *A Lincoln Portrait* – also for narrator and orchestra – which is one of Copland's best-known and best-realized works.

Of course there is no doubt that, when speaking to a lofty purpose, Lincoln had a noble yet easy eloquence that would astound us were it to appear in today's political arena. But I decided to forego that serious side of him in favor of his impish side. Lincoln had a sense of humor that was much broader – in both senses of that term – than most people realize. In fact he told – and made up – jokes so often that he was criticized in some quarters as not being serious enough for a wartime president. He himself liked to tell the story of Quaker ladies in Philadelphia comparing Jefferson Davis, the head of the Confederacy, with his adversary.

"Thee knows," said one, "that Mr. Davis is a praying man."

"Yes," replied the other, "but so is Mr. Lincoln a praying man."

"That's true," said the first, "but the Lord will think that Abraham is joking."

It is my hope, however that *Lincoln at Ease* will convey not just the man's humor, but also his enthusiasm; contrary to the gaunt, melancholy and reserved-looking image that many of us have of him, Lincoln was exuberant in his passions.

Nowhere was this truer than his love of music. It has been said that Lincoln had more music in his White House than did any other president before or since. He frequented the opera house as well as the music hall, and he installed an old friend on his staff who was always ready to sing or play for him. Sometimes he would wander from the White House to one of the street encampments set up by former slaves who had drifted north after the Emancipation Proclamation. There, without any retinue or other trappings of his office, he stood and listened to the spirituals being sung, occasionally even joining in himself.

All of the songs quoted in *Lincoln at Ease* were around during this time, and most of the featured ones ("Barbara Allen," "Dixie's Land" – as it was originally called – and "Twenty Years Ago") are known to have been among his favorites. His favorite opera was Gounod's *Faust* (especially the famous "Soldier's Chorus"), and Flotow's *Martha* was given a special performance for his second inauguration.

Lincoln the no-frills orator, the pragmatic idealist, and the reluctant warrior have often been celebrated; *Lincoln at Ease* celebrates the Civil War President as an enjoyer, which, along with everything else, he very much was.

Peter Schickele

The piece was commissioned by the Louisville Orchestra through funding made available by the Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. This performance for the Lincoln Celebration on February 11, 2008, in Louisville, Kentucky, is the premiere of the composition. The Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission is administered by the Kentucky Historical Society.

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LINCOLN SEEN AND HEARD

Lincoln Seen and Heard juxtaposes the soulful images of Abraham Lincoln and his unforgettable words in a riveting presentation that brings the 16th president to life. Lincoln recognized in the new medium of photography a powerful tool, and he used it shrewdly to his advantage. By coincidence or design, Lincoln seemed always to pose for some of his most famous and revealing photographs around the time he delivered some of his greatest speeches. Lincoln Seen and Heard offers a unique opportunity to see and hear Abraham Lincoln at his best.



Award-winning actor Sam Waterston, who has frequently portrayed Lincoln on stage and television, once again gives voice to the 16th president's words. Historian Harold Holzer, America's leading scholar of the Lincoln image, narrates this inspiring presentation.

MARGARET GARNER

Michigan Opera Theatre, Cincinnati Opera, and Opera Company of Philadelphia have collaborated to co-commission *Margaret Garner*, a new American opera based on one of the most significant fugitive slave stories in pre-Civil War America. The project marks the anticipated operatic debut for the highly acclaimed creative team of Grammy-Award winning composer Richard Danielpour and librettist Toni Morrison, celebrated novelist and winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Fleeing Kentucky's Maplewood Farm in 1856 to Ohio, Margaret Garner made the horrific decision to sacrifice her own children when facing recapture, rather than see them returned to the bonds of slavery. Her trial became the subject of intense national debate, addressing crucial issues in constitutional law and posing key questions at the core of the rift in the Union.

Tonight, guest soloist Angela Brown performs "Three Prayers" from *Margaret Garner* – "Cilla's Prayer," "He Is By," and "Epilogue."

More than anything else, Margaret Garner is an opera that reminds us that we all belong to the same human family, and it demonstrates what can happen when we forget this fundamental truth.

— Richard Danielpour, composer

PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS AND PERFORMERS



ANGELA BROWN is a leading American soprano who has performed at the world's leading opera houses, including the New York City Metropolitan Opera. She made her debut in the fall 2004 season in the title role of Verdi's *Aida*. Angela Brown has traveled the globe performing in several distinguished productions, which include *Tosca*, *Il Trovatore*, *Don Carlo*, and *Porgy and Bess*. She recently appeared in the premiere of Richard Danielpour's opera *Margaret Garner*, which is based on Toni Morrison's best-selling novel Beloved. In 2004, Brown released a recording of African-American spirituals titled *Mosaic*. Brown has also performed with the acclaimed American Spiritual Ensemble.



JERRY BRUCKHEIMER is a well-known film and television producer. His extensive list of blockbuster films includes: *Top Gun, Armageddon, Black Hawk Down, Enemy of the State, National Treasure,* and *Pirates of the Caribbean.* His best-known television series are *CSI Crime Investigation, Cold Case, Without a Trace,* and *The Amazing Race.* Bruckheimer's movie *National Treasure: The Book of Secrets* involves Abraham Lincoln and the missing pages of the John Wilkes Booth diary.

LINDA BRUCKHEIMER is a Kentucky native and best-selling author whose works include The Southern Belles of Honeysuckle Way and Dreaming Southern. Mrs. Bruckheimer is also an avid preservation enthusiast and recently helped revitalize the charming town of Bloomfield, Kentucky. She serves as a trustee for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and is working with the University of Kentucky's horticulture department to restore Kentucky's agricultural roots.



Bob Edwards is an award-winning broadcast journalist and Kentucky native. Edwards is best known for being the first host of National Public Radio's hit program *Morning Edition*. His skills as an interviewer and correspondent have gained him great acclaim. Bob Edwards is now the host of *The Bob Edwards Show* on XM Satellite Radio and *Bob Edwards Weekend*, which broadcasts on nearly one hundred public radio stations.



Doris Kearns Goodwin is an award-winning author and one of the nation's leading Lincoln historians. Goodwin served as an assistant to President Lyndon B. Johnson and helped draft his personal memoirs. She won the Pulitzer Prize in 1995 for her book **No Ordinary Time**: **Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The American Homefront During World War II**. She was awarded the Lincoln Prize in 2006 for her best-selling work **Team of Rivals**, about Lincoln's Cabinet. Goodwin serves on the Advisory Committee for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

RICHARD GOODWIN is best known for being an advisor and speechwriter to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as well as U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Mr. Goodwin served as a member of President Kennedy's Task Force on Latin American Affairs, was deputy assistant secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, and secretary-general of the International Peace Corps. He has been credited with naming President Johnson's legislative agenda "the Great Society." Richard Goodwin was also involved with the investigation of the infamous *Twenty One* quiz show scandal, a story that was made into the Hollywood film *Quiz Show* in which he was portrayed by actor Rob Morrow. Since retiring from politics, Goodwin has published several books, articles, and plays.



HAROLD HOLZER is one of the leading authorities on President Abraham Lincoln. He has authored and co-authored thirty books on Lincoln and the Civil War era. Holzer's book Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech That Made Abraham Lincoln President won the prestigious Lincoln Prize in 2005. He has also contributed many articles to some of the nation's most popular magazines and journals. He has frequently appeared on The History Channel and C-SPAN. Holzer is also known for his Lincoln and Civil War lecture series, and penned the acclaimed Lincoln Seen and Heard and The Lincoln Family Album productions. Holzer is Co-Chair of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.



SAM WATERSTON is an award-winning actor best known for his portrayal of district attorney Jack McCoy on the hit television series *Law & Order*. He has also starred in a number of films and was nominated for an Academy Award for his performance in *The Killing Fields*. Waterston is an avid Lincoln enthusiast. He has portrayed the 16th president in the television version of Gore Vidal's *Lincoln*, starred in the Lincoln Center production of *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* and provided the voice of Lincoln for the television series *The Civil War*. Waterston serves on the Advisory Committee of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.



Composer, musician, author, satirist—**Peter Schickele** is internationally recognized as one of the most versatile artists in the field of music. His works number well in excess of 100 for symphony orchestras, choral groups, chamber ensembles, voice, movies and television, placing him among the most prolific American composers. His commissions are numerous and varied, ranging from works for the National Symphony and The Minnesota Opera to compositions for distinguished instrumentalists and singers. Mr. Schickele's *SYMPHONY NO. 1* "Songlines" was premiered by the National Symphony under Leonard Slatkin, and has since been played by the New York Philharmonic, The Cleveland Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, and other orchestras around the country. In his well-known role as the now-classic P.D.Q. Bach, Peter Schickele is acknowledged as one of the great satirists of the 20th century.



Lyric tenor **Daniel Weeks** has a varied career which encompasses the opera stage, oratorios with orchestras, recitals and a teaching position at the University of Louisville. In the 2007/08 season, Weeks has appeared with several major symphonies across the United States, including the Houston Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall, the Pittsburgh Symphony, and the Cincinnati Symphony. On the operatic stage, Weeks has performed repeatedly with the Cincinnati Opera, Kentucky Opera, Florentine Opera of



Milwaukee, Austin Lyric Opera, and Nevada Opera. In 2001, he toured the United States as Ferrando in Mozart's Così fan tutte with San Francisco Opera's Western Opera Theater. When not performing with orchestras or at opera houses, Daniel Weeks brings his expertise to the next generation of singers at the University of Louisville, where he has been a member of the voice faculty since 1988.



Tony Trischka has created an endless array of new possibilities for that most American of instruments, the five-string banjo. Through Tony, the banjo has found its way into many different musical forms from Jazz to Rock to Classical. He has performed extensively in the United States and Europe and has performed and recorded with such folks as Earl Scruggs, Ralph Stanley, John Denver, members of REM, William S. Burroughs, Steve Martin, and Charles Osgood. In October, Trischka was given an International Bluegrass Music Association award for Banjo Player of the Year 2007. His latest album, *Double Banjo Bluegrass Spectacular* received

IBMA awards for Recorded Event of the Year and Instrumental Album of the Year and has been nominated for a Grammy for Best Bluegrass Album. -New York Times

Kentucky Opera Studio Artists—Kentucky Opera has had a training program for singers since 2000. Having recently restructured the Young Artist Program into the Studio Artist Program, the new model provides a unique training program designed to support young artists. The company will support resident Studio Artists who have completed their graduate training and are transitioning to a career as a professional singer. The second tier of apprentice artists consists of graduate students at nearby universities such as the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. All of the artists in the Studio Artist Program participate in the mainstage productions singing comprimario roles and chorus, covering principal roles, and performing at parties and outreach events.

LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA—Founded in 1937 by conductor Robert Whitney and Louisville Mayor Charles Farnsley, the Louisville Orchestra has been called the cornerstone of the Louisville arts scene. A full-time, 71-member ensemble offering a wide variety of concert series to the community, including classical programs featuring world-renowned guest artists, lighter classical and pops performances, and education and family offerings, the Orchestra is also the resident performing group for the Louisville Ballet and the Kentucky Opera, and presents several concerts at local venues across the Kentucky/Indiana area.

In 2001, the Louisville Orchestra received the Leonard Bernstein Award for Excellence in Educational Programming, presented annually by ASCAP and the American Symphony Orchestra League. The Louisville Orchestra has also earned nineteen ASCAP awards for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music. Most recently, the Orchestra was awarded large grants from the Aaron Copland Fund for Music and the National Endowment for the Arts, both for the purpose of producing, manufacturing, and marketing the Orchestra's historic First Edition Recordings collections.



JORGE MESTER has served as music director of the Louisville Orchestra since 2006. Long considered an ardent champion of contemporary music, Mester has given more than 70 world-premiere performances of works by such composers as Philip Glass, Peter Schickele, Michael Daughtery, Carl Ruggles, Joan Tower, and George Tsontakis.

During his earlier 12-year tenure as music director of the Louisville Orchestra from 1967 to 1979, Mester made 72 world premiere recordings with the orchestra.

Notably, Mester's passion for conducting extends from the stage to the classroom. He served as director of the Juilliard School's Conducting Department during the early 1980s and, this past season, led a series of conducting workshops for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also been a guest conductor at the USC Thornton School of Music.

He is conductor laureate of the prestigious Aspen Music Festival, which he led as music director for 21 years. This season, he also assumes the post of music director of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra in Florida. From 1998 to 2002, he served as artistic director of the Orquesta Filarmonica de la Ciudad de Mexico in Mexico City.

In 1985, he received Columbia University's prestigious Ditson Conductor's Award for the advancement of American music.





Jorge Mester, Music Director Music Director Chair Mary and Barry Bingham, Sr. Bob Bernhardt, Principal Pops Conductor Jason Weinberger, Associate Conductor

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Judy Pease Wilson •

Blaise Jessop Poth •

Lorna Tsai

Marcus Ratzenboeck, Principal Claire and Lee Lenkoff Chair Clinton Grosz, Assistant Principal Matthew Milewski Mary Catherine Klan Violin Chair, Endowed by Chase Devonie Freeman Elisa Spalding Kimberly Tichenor Charles Brestel Patricia Ann Jenkins Endowed Chair Heidi Tracy •

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Endowed in Honor of Emilie Strong Smith by an Anonymous Donor Christopher McKay, Interim

Meghan Casper, Interim *Fan Xiao

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Endowed by Dr. Ben M. Birkhead Christina Hinton

Dr. Edward Leo Callahan Chair Allison Olsen •

Peter McCaffrey •

Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Chair, Endowed by Esther & Dr. David Shapiro Deborah Caruso •

Iulia Preston

BASS

Bert Witzel, Principal Richard Ryan, Assistant Principal Patricia Docs Robert Docs Karl Olsen • Jarrett Fankhauser Chair,

Endowed by the Paul Ogle Foundation Michael Chmilewski

Kathleen Karr, Principal • Elaine Klein Chair Yong Ma, Assistant Principal • Donald Gottlieb

PICCOLO

Donald Gottlieb Alvis R. Hambrick Chair

OBOE

Marion Gibson, Principal • Betty Arrasmith Chair, Endowed by the Association of the Louisville Orchestra Trevor Johnson, Assistant Principal • Edgar J. Hinson III Chair

Marianne Petersen

ENGLISH HORN

Marianne Petersen Philip M. Lanier Chair

CLARINET

Andrea Levine, Principal • Brown-Forman Corp. Chair Matthew Leitsch, Interim *Tim Zavadil General Dillman A. Rash Chair Ernest Gross • Kate H. and Julian P. Van Winkle, Jr. Chair

E-FLAT CLARINET+

Matthew Leitsch *Tim Zavadil

BASS CLARINET

Ernest Gross •

BASSOON

Matthew Karr, Principal • Paul D. McDowell Chair David Horn Roger Soren, Assistant Principal

CONTRABASSOON

Roger Soren •

HORN

*Jon Gustely, Principal Horn • Edith S. and Barry Bingham, Jr. Chair Stephen Causey, Assistant Principal • Dennis Hallman Kenneth Albrecht • Diana Wade Morgen

TRUMPET

J. Jerome Amend, Principal • Leon Rapier Chair, Endowed by the Musicians of the Louisville Orchestra James Recktenwald, Assistant Principal • Lynne A. Redgrave Chair Daniel Kassteen •

TROMBONE

Open, Principal PNC Bank, Kentucky, Inc. Chair Joseph Parrish

BASS TROMBONE

Raymond Horton

Daryl Johnson, Principal •

TIMPANI

James Rago, Principal • Mr. and Mrs. Warwick Dudley Musson Principal Timpani Chair

PERCUSSION

John Pedroja, Principal †Mark Tate

HARP

Mary Julian Rapier, Principal The Humana Foundation Chair

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†Grace Baugh-Bennett Margaret S. Comstock Piano Chair

†Auxiliary musician often engaged •Participates in Education Ensemble program



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The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission gratefully acknowledges the support and generosity of the following individuals and organizations:

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C-SPAN



Tuesday, February 12, 2008 Hodgenville, Kentucky

The Official National Opening Ceremony

10:30 A.M.

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site Tommy Turner, master of ceremonies

Musical Selections Saxton's Cornet Band

Introductions Keith Pruitt, Superintendent

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS

Welcome Tommy Turner

LaRue County Judge and

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Invocation U.S. Representative Ron Lewis

Welcome Harold Holzer, Co-Chair

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Remarks U.S. Senator Jim Bunning

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

U.S. Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr.

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Mary Bomar, Director National Park Service

Governor Steven L. Beshear Commonwealth of Kentucky

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel

Arr. Moses Hogan

American Spiritual Ensemble Everett McCorvey, Director

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Words by James Weldon Johnson Music by J. Rosamond Johnson

Arr. Roland Carter

Gettysburg Address Sam Waterston

Remarks Lyle Laverty

Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Remarks Dirk Kempthorne

Secretary of the Interior

Keynote Mrs. Laura Bush

Benediction Reverend Billy Curl

America the Beautiful and wreath-laying

American Spiritual Ensemble

Angela Brown, soprano

UPCOMING BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

MAY 2008

May 11 Mother's Day Celebration, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City IN

NOVEMBER 2008

November 19 Dedication Day Ceremony, Gettysburg, PA - 145th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address

JANUARY 2009

January 1 Anniversary of the Enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation

Issuance of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commemorative Coin

FEBRUARY 2009

February 2 Lincoln Birthday Gala and Premiere of Documentary, Looking for Lincoln, Washington DC

February 12 Lincoln Memorial Rededication Series: Birthday Tribute and Wreath-Laying Ceremony, Washington DC

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial National Teach-In: Linking students across the country to examine and reflect on Lincoln's legacy

Joint Meeting of Congress: A Congressional Tribute in Statuary Hall

Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Ceremony

Exhibition Opening and Reception: Lincoln, Library of Congress, Washington DC

APRIL 2009

April 12 Lincoln Memorial Rededication Series: Marian Anderson Tribute and Naturalization Ceremony, Washington DC

April 15 Dedication of Lincoln Statue, Waterfront Park, Louisville KY

April 16-18 Emancipation and Race in the Age of Lincoln Conference, Howard University, Washington DC

MAY 2009

TBD Poetry Out Loud: National Poetry Recitation Contest for Youth, Washington DC

May 30 Lincoln Memorial Rededication Series: A Retrospective, Washington DC

<u>JULY 2009</u>

July 3-5 Lincoln's Legacy: An International Conference, University of Oxford, UK

OCTOBER 2009

TBD Exhibition Opening of Library of Congress's Lincoln, Newberry Library, Chicago IL

FEBRUARY 2010

TBD Exhibition Opening of Library of Congress's Lincoln, Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis IN

SEPTEMBER 2010

TBD Exhibition Opening of Library of Congress's Lincoln, Atlanta History Center, Atlanta GA

Additional programs are being planned throughout the nation. They include town hall meetings on equality, opportunity and race (2009), the premiere of a documentary of Lincoln sculptures, complementary exhibits on Lincoln and Juarez, and a poetry evening in Washington sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts. The U.S. Mint will release four new penny designs and a commemorative Bicentennial coin. The U.S. Postal Service is expected to issue commemorative Bicentennial stamps. And states and local communities across the nation will plan celebrations to mark the occasion. To keep up to date, please visit the ALBC Web site at www.abrahamlincoln200.org.

Note: Events in **bold** are ALBC National Signature Events



THE SAXTON'S CORNET BAND

Recognized nationally as the premiere brass band, the Saxton's Cornet Band embodies the historical style and energetic sounds of a Civil War era brass ensemble. First established by Henry Saxton during the antebellum period, the band was reorganized in 1989 to preserve and recreate the concert experience of nearly 150 years ago.

Each performance historically reflects the mid-nineteenth century spirit with animated music, dramatic readings and period humor.

Featured regularly at the Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, KY, the Saxton Cornet's Band has also performed at National Park Service sites around the country including Gettysburg National Military Park. In 2001, the band performed during President Bush's inaugural.

THE AMERICAN SPIRITUAL ENSEMBLE

Critically acclaimed and internationally recognized, the American Spiritual Ensemble features a dynamic group of vocalists dedicated to preserving American Negro spirituals. Performances have featured opera, jazz and Broadway renditions highlighting the black experience.

Everett McCorvey founded the American Spiritual Ensemble in 1995. A native of Montgomery, Alabama, McCorvey received his doctorate in musical arts from the University of Alabama. Before organizing the ensemble, McCorvey performed the world over including the Kennedy Center, the New York Metropolitan Opera, Radio City Music Hall, as well as performances in England, Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan, Poland and the Czech Republic.

Dr. McCorvey is a faculty member at the American Institute of Musical Study in Graz, Austria, and is the director of opera at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

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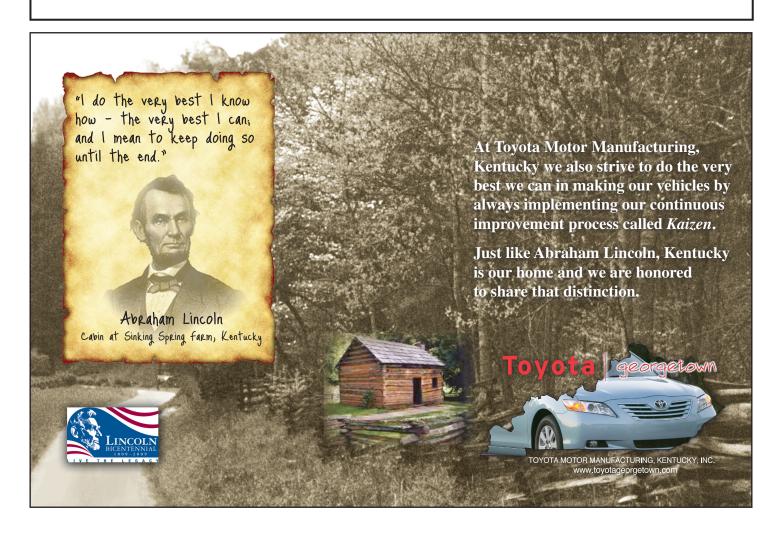
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